

Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Roll Call

|          |                            |                |
|----------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Present: | Alex Bennett               | Jerry Bixby    |
|          | Richard Hughes             | Kyleen Krstich |
|          | Frank Smith (arrived late) | Cindy Stewart  |
|          | Kent Voigt                 | Bryan Wehrung  |

Absent: Michael Farrug

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Voigt, seconded by Bixby to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 24, 2001 as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

A. Americast - Price Changes

Effective July 15, 2001, households will be charged \$4.95 for the first T.E.D. and additional T.E.D.'s will remain at \$2.95. The price of single advantage service (HBO, Cinemax, Starz/Encore) will increase by \$1.00.

B. Comcast

Effective April 16, 2001, the new rate for Basic Cable is \$11.50, Cable Plus is \$18.45 and Variety Packages are \$3.00. In addition, the digital cable ala carte pricing will increase by \$1.86; the digital packages will increase by \$5.00; and HBO, Showtime, Cinemax and the Movie Channel will increase by \$0.50.

Committee members discussed the City's role in stopping cable rate increases. The City has no recourse since there is competition.

A senior discount is available. Comcast offers \$3.00 off basic plus and basic for seniors over 62 years. Americast offers a 10% discount to seniors 65 years and older. Stewart will promote this via the *Senior Newsletter*, *Troy Today*, and cable.

Both cable companies are working hard to develop high technology systems.

C. New Staff

Cindy has dealt with both John Rawcliffe and Mary Maliga Brown. Both are very professional and respond to customer complaints in a very timely fashion.

D. Comcast @ Home Service

The new pricing for this service is \$5.00 per month to rent the modem. Wehrung has the @ Home Service and is very pleased with it. The speed alone makes it worthwhile.

E. Ameritech - New Digital Sports Package

The Committee questioned whether this package is free of charge. It is not per Americast. Ameritech is removing 3 channels from the analog PPV line-up.

F. Ameritech New Media Quarterly Report

The PPV buys seem fairly low. Outages doubled in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.

Stewart will get trouble call codes from Ameritech for October meeting.

Old Business

A. Digital Equipment (carry over item)

For the long-term plan, WTRY equipment that is being purchased is high quality and digital.

B. Retention of Council Meeting Tapes

Council policy now states current tapes are recycled after the next meeting takes place. Copies are on sale for \$15.00 per tape.

Moved by Bennett, seconded by Hughes that CATV Committee advises City Council to maintain City Council meeting tapes for an indefinite period at the Library for access to citizens.

Motion carried unanimously.

This resolution will be forwarded to Council at an August 2001 meeting.

C. Elect CATV Chairperson

Wehrung is currently acting chairperson.

Bixby opened the floor for nominations to chair the Committee.

Bixby nominated Bryan Wehrung; Hughes seconded nomination.

Nomination was unanimously approved. Wehrung accepted the Chair position.

- D. Alex Bennett brought up a discussion on CMN.
- E. Amplifier and Power Strip Costs (from May meeting)

Stewart called Americast. Amplifier cost was not comparable to what equipment is worth and most people don't even need the amplifier. The power strip protects against power surges.

#### New Business

- A. ICCA Meeting Notes

Job opening - may want to contact National Academy of Arts & Sciences - Detroit Producers Association.

August 20 City Council meeting - Wide Open West - Contact CATV members if this presentation takes place.

Mail answers to questions from WOW to CATV.

- B. Related Articles

Comment – Wide Open West may change their name when the deal to purchase Americast closes.

- C. October Meeting Date

The next meeting date is October 17, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room C.

- D. Mission Statement

Include copy of Mission Statement in next agenda packet for new Committee members.

Moved by Voigt, seconded by Bixby to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.